

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

*Please amend claims as follows:*

Claims 1-112. (Cancelled).

113. **(Currently amended)** An injectable hydrogel composition comprising a physically cross-linked hydrogel, wherein the **physically** cross-linked hydrogel is **formed without substantially-free of** chemical crosslinkers, **irradiation or thermal cycling**.

114. **(Currently amended)** An injectable hydrogel composition comprising a physically cross-linked polyvinyl alcohol, wherein the hydrogel composition is prepared by mixing at least about 1.0 weight percent polyvinyl alcohol with a solution of about 1.5 to about 6.0 molar sodium chloride, **wherein the physically cross-linked hydrogel is formed without chemical cross-linkers, irradiation or thermal cycling,** thereby forming a physically crosslinked injectable hydrogel.

115. (Previously presented) The injectable hydrogel composition of claim 114, wherein the physically crosslinked injectable hydrogel comprises about 1.0 to about 50.0 weight percent polyvinyl alcohol.

116. (Previously presented) The injectable hydrogel composition of claim 114, wherein the vinyl polymer solution contains one or more non-gelling components.

117. (Previously presented) The injectable hydrogel composition of claim 116 further comprising hyaluronic acid.

118. (Previously presented) The injectable hydrogel composition of claim 116 further comprising polyacrylic acid.

119. (Previously presented) The injectable hydrogel composition of claim 116 further comprising a therapeutic agent.

Claims 120-133. (Cancelled).